

REMARKS

Claims 2-26 are pending. Claims 2, 6-8, 10, 11, and 13-26 have been amended. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found, e.g., at page 4, lines 1-5, of the specification. The amendments to the specification are to correct a typographical error in the spelling of "trifluoromethoxy". Support for the correct spelling can be found in the abstract. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Objection Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c)

Claims 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 25 were objected to as failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. The amendment of claims 2, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 to recite "6-(trifluoromethoxy)-2-benzothiazolamine or [a/the] salt thereof" obviates this rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 and 26 were rejected as indefinite for reciting the limitation "salt" without sufficient antecedent basis. The amendment of claims 2, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 to recite "6-(trifluoromethoxy)-2-benzothiazolamine or [a/the] salt thereof" obviates this rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very productive interview with the undersigned and her associate, Dr. Margo Furman, on October 20, 2004. During the interview, Applicant's representatives pointed out that Arnold et al. describes a method of monitoring changes in NAA signal in the brain as a surrogate marker for efficacy of drugs intended to treat neurodegenerative diseases. As proof of principle, Arnold et al. measured NAA signal in ALS patients treated with riluzole, a drug known to be useful in treating ALS. Arnold et al. did not suggest using riluzole (or anything else) to treat multiple sclerosis. The Examiner acknowledged that Arnold does not teach or suggest a method of treatment for multiple sclerosis, and agreed to withdraw the rejection of the claims as obvious over Arnold et al. (WO 98/41882). The Examiner also agreed that amending the claims as indicated above would overcome the objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

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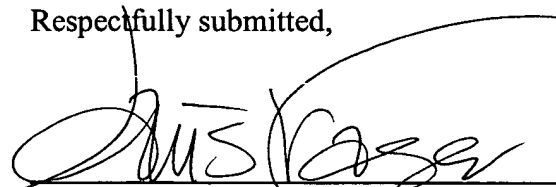
At the interview, the Applicants provided the Examiner with a copy of Kalkers et al., "The effect of the neuroprotective agent riluzole on MRI parameters in primary progressive multiple sclerosis: a pilot study", *Mult. Scler.*, 8(6):532-3 (2002), a post-filing publication by the inventor. The Examiner indicated she would make it of record. As all grounds for rejection have been overcome, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is a \$980 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

Oct 22, 2004



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